

Chapter 6: Implementation

Following is a summary description of the major tasks determined to be necessary to effectively implement the 2018 Burien Park, Recreation, & Open Space (PROS) Plan. The tasks represent the general priorities established by the workshops, outreach surveys, brainstorming event, public open houses participants, and the survey of registered voter households.

As shown, a number of parties may be responsible for the lead and management, participation, and supporting aspects of each action - as described in the following summaries. The tasks are grouped according to subject matter and not priority. Implementation will involve a varying mix of funding strategies.

Adopt plan

Task 1: Adopt 2018 Burien PROS Plan as Burien GMA element

The Burien City Council will adopt by resolution the 2018 Burien PROS Plan as a stand-alone planning document for compliance with the Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office (RCO) and as a complimentary Parks & Recreation Element of Burien's Comprehensive Plan in accordance with Growth Management Act (GMA) provisions.

- **Participants** - Burien City Council with the assistance of the Burien Planning Commission, Community Development and Public Works Departments, the participation of Highline School District, and citizens.

Action

- **Make 2018 Burien PROS Plan available on Burien website** - and distribute copies to appropriate public agencies and interested public and private parties in accordance with GMA adoption provisions including a SEPA Checklist for a non-project action.
- **Burien Planning Commission reviews 2018 Burien PROS Plan** - as necessary as part of Burien annual comprehensive plan update and provides for public hearing in conformance with GMA.
- **Burien adopts 2018 Burien PROS Plan** - as the Parks & Recreation Element of the Burien Comprehensive Plan.
- **Burien adopts the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) integrating the 2018 PROS Plan** - as an element of the Burien comprehensive plan, thereby implementing the CIP in accordance with GMA provisions.

Implement program financing strategies

Task 2: Expand clearinghouse function

Burien will continue development and operation of the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services (PaRCS) website that provides recreation program offerings

that include a wide variety of activities accommodating the interests of city residents, regardless of age, skill level, income - or program provider.

The PaRCS website will continue to offer recreation program activities providing health, education, social, recreational, and other welfare activities for youth, teens, adults, seniors, and special populations. The website will also provide other park provider information pertinent to the community.

Depending on demand, cost, and feasibility, PaRCS when practical and consistent with Burien's mission statements, will also coordinate with programs conducted by other public, nonprofit, or for-profit organizations and vendors.

PaRCS program offerings will continue to include activities that will be conducted in Burien parks, facilities, and trails. However, depending on demand, PaRCS may also conduct programs in schools and other public facilities across the city, as well as in nonprofit and other facilities.

- **Participants** - Burien Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services (PaRCS) Department, the Highline School District, and other nonprofit and private organizations.

Action

- **Continue to operate a Burien clearinghouse website** - for recreational activities.

Task 3: Monitor user fee schedules

PaRCS staff will assess criteria for all prospective program offerings. If the program is consistent with PaRCS mission and level-of-service proposals shown in this plan, PaRCS will offer the program under its recreational pyramid pricing policy that establishes a benefit scale under one of the following cost recovery scenarios:

- **Enterprise (full cost recovery) programs** - will recover all direct costs (including full and part-time staff, supplies, materials, maintenance, and utilities) and indirect costs (including department overhead for staff benefits).
- **Merit pricing (partial cost recovery) programs** - will partially recover direct and indirect costs based on a policy decision about the degree to which each program provides public versus private goods or benefits. Merit pricing programs may also include the providing of scholarships to eligible user individuals or user groups that would prevent the program for realizing full cost recovery.
- **Subsidy (no or very low cost recovery) programs** - will not attempt to recover costs as a fee, although it may ask for donations or grants from using individuals, groups, or organizations who benefit or are likely sponsors.

- **Participants** - Burien Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services (PaRCS) Department, Highline School District, and non-profit and for-profit organizations.

Action

- **Monitor user fee schedules to maintain a benefits scale for recreation activities** - collect user fees under an enterprise, merit, or subsidy based cost recovery policy for recreation programs.

Task 4: Recruit program vendors

PaRCS will assess the mission criteria for all prospective program offerings. If programs are not consistent with PaRCS's mission and level-of-service proposals shown in this plan, PaRCS will not offer the program, but may consider a partnership with other providers. This could include offering scholarships or other services or publishing the program offering. Depending on the program activity, other vendors may include:

- **Other jurisdictions** - including SeaTac, Normandy Park, King County, the Highline School District, and the WA CJTC BLEA.
- **Nonprofit organizations** - such as the Highline YMCA, Environmental Science Center, Evergreen Community Aquatics Center, PacWest Little League, Boys & Girls Club, Boy and Girl Scouts, Campfire USA, Lions, Rotary, and Kiwanis Clubs, among others.
- **Private for-profit entities and vendors** - such as Highline Athletic Club, Gregory-Seahurst Swim Club, Arbor Heights Swim Club, Normandy Park Swim Club, LA Fitness, and private religious schools, among others.

- **Participants** - Burien Parks, Recreation & Community Services (PaRCS) Department, Highline School District, and non-profit and for-profit organizations.

Action

- **Work in conjunction with other sponsors and vendors** - to provide recreation activities as appropriate.

Adopt project financing strategies

Task 5: Allocate capital facility funds as specified in the Capital Improvements Program (CIP)

Burien City Council will allocate a proportional amount of the monies received from dedicated park, recreation, open space, and trails-oriented revenue programs to provide funds for 2018 PROS Plan acquisition and development projects that reflect the objectives of these programs.

The revenue programs to be coordinated may include Burien property tax fund proceeds, Burien Real Estate Excise Taxes (REET), and grant applications to the Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office (RCO), among others.

If determined to be appropriate, Burien City Council will also allocate a proportional amount of the monies received from tourism from the Hotel/Motel Tax and Road and Non-motorized Transportation Funds revenue programs to provide funds for the development of citywide trail systems that benefit tourists and multimodal transportation development.

The revenue programs to be coordinated for trail system development may include the Hotel/Motel Tax for tourism.

- **Participants** - Burien City Council with the assistance of Burien Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services (PaRCS) Department, Community Development, and Public Works Departments.

Action

- Allocate a proportional amount from existing park, recreation, open space, and trail-oriented revenue programs to fund the acquisition of 2018 PROS Plan projects - designating monies from Burien property tax levy, Burien Real Estate Excise Taxes (REET), and RCO grants.
- Allocate a proportional amount from existing tourist and transportation-oriented revenue programs to fund the development of citywide trail systems - designating monies from the Burien Hotel/Motel Tax and City Road Fund.

Task 6: Institute citywide capital facility and O&M park levy

Burien City Council may place a property tax levy proposal for voter approval on a citywide basis for the acquisition, development, and operation of parks, recreation, and open space facilities throughout the city (possibly considering using a Metropolitan Park District).

The funds collected from the levy will be allocated to the appropriate sponsoring agency, which may include the city, school district or non-profit organization, for the realization of park, recreation, and open space facilities identified within this plan.

Under Washington State enabling acts, Burien may levy a property tax for general governmental purposes at a rate not to exceed \$3.60 per \$1,000 of the assessed value of all taxable property within the city. The total of all property taxes for all taxing authorities cannot exceed 1.0% of assessed valuation, or \$10.00 per \$1,000 of value. If the taxes of all districts exceed the 1.0% or \$10.00 amount, each is proportionately reduced until the total is at or below the 1.0% limit.

In 2001, Washington State law was amended by Proposition 747, a statutory provision limiting the growth of the regular property tax levy to 1.0% per year, after adjustments for new construction. Any proposed increases over this amount are subject to a referendum vote.

The statute was intended to control local governmental spending by controlling the annual rate of growth of property taxes. In practice, however, the statute can reduce the effective property tax yield to an annual level far below a city's levy authorization, particularly when property values are increasing rapidly.

Proposition 747, the statutory provision limiting the growth of regular property taxes to 1.0% per year, can be waived by referendum approval of a simple (50%) majority of Burien's registered voters. Burien voters will be asked to approve a resetting of the property tax levy rate that will adjust the amount of revenue the city can generate. (The new total revenue that will be generated by a resetting of the rate will be subject to the same 1.0% limitation, however, and the total amount of revenue and the resulting property tax rate will start to decline again in accordance with the Proposition.)

The adjusted rate and revenue will be used to finance the 2018 PROS Plan facility proposals - or the projects and programs from this plan that involve construction, maintenance, and operations aspects that a majority of the voters are willing to pay for under the adjusted rate.

Burien voters may be asked to reset the rate on a permanent basis with the new differential rate dedicated to citywide 2018 PROS Plan proposals, subject to the provisions of Proposition 747. Or Burien voters may be asked to reset the rate on a temporary basis, where the rate is adjusted until a specific amount of revenue has been generated to finance a specified number of 2018 PROS Plan projects or programs - whereupon the rate reverts to the original or a specified amount defined in the referendum.

- **Participants** - Burien City Council with the assistance of the Burien Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services (PaRCS) Department, and the Highline School District.

Action

- **Submit and approve a property tax levy rate adjustment (on permanent or temporary basis) to acquire, develop, and operate facilities** - allocating the additional revenues for acquisition, development, and operation in accordance with this plan regardless of agency sponsor.

Initiate parks, recreation, and open space projects

Task 7: Acquire open space and conservancies

Using funds generated from adjusted program fees and schedules, possible impact fees, and the proposed levy, PaRCS will acquire fee or use agreements and conserve significant wildlife, forestland, and open spaces indicated within this 2018 PROS Plan. Where appropriate, monies will be allocated to

and/or combined with monies provided by the county, state agencies, and non-profit organizations for significant projects.

Depending on schedules and availabilities, initial acquisitions of development rights or fee title may include the riparian corridors and buffers, freshwater wetlands and ponds, saltwater shorelines and estuaries, and historical and cultural landscapes indicated in this 2018 PROS Plan.

- **Participants** - Burien City Council, Burien Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services (PaRCS) Department, and the participation of other public and non-profit organizations.

Action

- Initiate the acquisition of fee title or use agreements and conservancy of significant open space and conservancy sites - allocating revenues for significant properties in accordance with this 2018 Burien PROS Plan regardless of agency sponsor.

Task 8: Acquire/develop neighborhood and community parks

Using funds generated from adjusted program fees and schedules, and possible levies, PaRCS will acquire, develop, maintain, and operate neighborhood and community parks indicated within this 2018 PROS Plan. Where appropriate, monies will be allocated and/or combined with monies provided by the county, state agencies, and non-profit organizations.

Depending on schedules and availabilities, initial acquisitions and developments may include waterfront access, picnic table and shelter, athletic court and field improvements to be distributed across the city, among others.

- **Participants** - Burien City Council, Burien Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services (PaRCS) Department, and the participation of other public and non-profit organizations.

Action

- Initiate the acquisition, development, maintenance, and operation of neighborhood and community parks - allocating revenues in accordance with this 2018 Burien PROS Plan regardless of agency sponsor.

Task 9: Acquire/develop trail systems

Using funds generated from adjusted program fees and schedules, and possible levies, PaRCS will acquire, develop, maintain, and operate the significant trail systems indicated within this 2018 Burien PROS Plan.

Where appropriate, monies will be allocated to and/or combined with monies provided by the county, state agencies, and non-profit organizations for significant projects. Generally, Burien Public Works Department will develop

and maintain non-motorized trail connections within public road right-of-ways.

Depending on schedules and availabilities, initial acquisitions and developments may include off-road hiking, biking, and multipurpose trails extending within and between environmental areas, parks, schools, community facilities, and neighborhoods across the city.

- **Participants** - Burien City Council, Burien Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services (PaRCS) Department, Community Development, and Public Works Departments, other public and non-profit organizations, and property owners.

Action

- **Initiate the acquisition, development, maintenance, and operation of significant corridors and on and off-road trail systems** - allocating revenues for significant projects in accordance with this PROS Plan regardless of agency sponsor.

Task 10: Conserve/designate historic and cultural resources

Burien City Council will designate and conserve significant historic and cultural resources indicated within this 2018 PROS Plan. Where appropriate, way-finder and historic signage, artworks, arts centers, and streetscapes development monies will be allocated to and/or combined with monies provided by county and state agencies for significant projects.

Depending on schedules and availabilities, initial designations may include the Old Burien downtown district, Urban Center streetscapes and gateways, Moshier Arts Center, and Dottie Harper Park, among others.

- **Participants** - Burien City Council with the assistance of Burien Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services (PaRCS) Department, Community Development, and Public Works Departments, and the participation of the Arts and Historic Commissions.

Action

- **Initiate the designation, management, acquisition, development, maintenance, and operation of significant historic and cultural resources** - allocating revenues for significant projects in accordance with this plan regardless of agency sponsor.

Task 11: Develop new recreation center

Using funds generated from adjusted program fees and schedules, and a possible bond or levy, PaRCS will complete a master plan and initiate retrofitting of the Burien Community Theater (gymnasium), kitchen, and classroom wing and development of a consolidated multi-generational recreation center on the north portion of the Annex site.

Where appropriate, acquisition, development, and/or lease-to-own monies will be allocated to and/or combined with monies provided by other public, private, and non-profit organizations for significant projects.

Depending on schedules and availabilities, initial lease-to-own acquisition and development may include before and after school indoor and outdoor play areas, teen area, gymnasiums, overhead jogging track, lobby and coffee concession, multipurpose great hall and kitchen, and the retention of the former school gymnasium as the Burien Community Theater for youth, teen, adult, senior, and special population activities.

- **Participants** - Burien City Council, the Burien Parks, Recreation & Community Services (PaRCS) Department, and other public agencies as well as private and non-profit organizations.

Action

- **Initiate the redevelopment of the Annex site for a consolidated multi-generational recreation center facility** - allocating revenues for lease-to-own or purchase and development projects in accordance with this 2018 Burien PROS Plan regardless of agency sponsor.

Follow-up

Task 12: Conduct progress assessments

PaRCS and other public, nonprofit, and private agencies will conduct progress assessments reviewing action on the projects and programs identified above and improve methods to ensure outreach for all members of the diverse Burien community for effective implementation.

- **Participants** - Burien City Council, Burien Planning Commission, Burien Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources (PaRCS) Department, Community Development, and Public Works Departments, the Highline School District, public and non-profit organizations, private vendors, and citizens at large.

Action

- **Adjust 2018 PROS Plan parks, recreation, and open space vision, strategies, and implementing measures** - based on the results of the follow-up assessments.

